

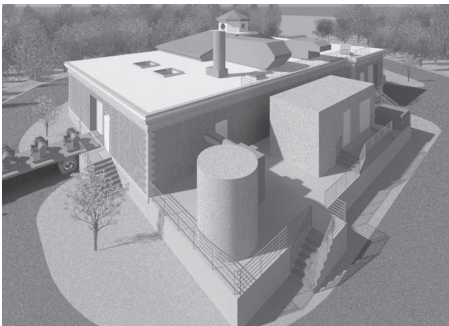
## **ABOUT THE PIPELINE**

The Pipeline publications help the Department to explain to you about the work we do. If, after reading this publication, you have questions or suggestions for future feature articles that you believe other customers would be interested in, please let us know. By hearing from our customers regularly, we can complete our mission to serve you better.

## **FROM THE DIRECTOR**

*By Joseph Fazzino*

Mattabassett Sewer Project Update (10/08/19)



We are getting close to the finish line as you have probably noticed if you have driven by the site. All the pretreatment equipment has

been installed and tested. This includes the automatic bar screens, grit collectors and conveyance equipment, isolation slide gates and not to mention the dry and wet weather pumps that will handle our waste water flow to Mattabassett's Treatment Facility. The heating and ventilation equipment is going through start up and our Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition computer systems are going thru initial startup and check out.

Walsh Construction is working on the outside details as well. They are grading the site for the finish grade which includes pavement for the drive way, parking spaces, sidewalks, fencing and the storm water retention ponds. All these finishing touches that bring the project to a close are underway. The site is a buzz with all the activity as we get ready for the dedication of our new Francis T. Patnaude pump station this month.

We have also been coordinating the startup activities for our new Inter-Municipal pump station with our neighbors in Cromwell at the Mattabassett District. This is an important partnership that we have been working towards for many years as we start up this new state of the art facility and get ready to decommission the existing Water Pollution Control Facility on River Road and looking to the future.

If you should have any questions on our progress, contact the Engineering Division at our Headquarters at 82 Berlin Street, or you can call us at 860-638-3500.

## **OLD MILL ROAD/BARBARA ROAD CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

*By Brian Robillard, Chief Engineer*

The Water and Sewer Department and the Department of Public Works is nearly complete with its project to improve the Old Mill Road area of the City. Old Mill Road, Barbara Road, Belvidere Terrace, Phedon Parkway, Bailey Road and portions of Westfield Street are included in this project.

The contractor, True Blue Environmental, Inc. has been working since July 2018 to replace the water main, replace and rehabilitate the sewer mains,

upgrade the drainage system, and rebuild and repave the streets. All of the water and sewer work has been completed including:

- 6,800 linear feet of new water main,
- 6,300 linear feet of new sanitary sewer main,
- 6,000 feet of sewer main rehabilitation by lining existing pipe with an epoxy,
- Numerous valves, hydrants, laterals, services, and
- 6,000 hours of police time to ensure safety.



Old Mill Road was paved in late August and included new curbing. Westfield Street, Barbara Road, Phedon Parkway, Belvidere Terrace are scheduled to be paved during the month of October. All of the paving is scheduled to be complete by the first part of November. The contractor will come back in the spring to finish minor work such as spreading topsoil and seed.

During the course of the work, the City held community meetings with area neighbors. This was a forum where people could ask questions about the work, get updated on schedules and voice concerns about the project. We want to thank everyone who participated in these meetings. Your input was valuable, helped address issues and made this project a success. We appreciate the patience of all the neighbors during this complicated project. We understand it has been difficult with the detours, traffic, noise and inconvenience. Thank you.

## **RECYCLE RIGHT!**

*By Kim O'Rourke, Recycling Coordinator*

The cost of recycling has increased significantly over the past couple years. Countries overseas do not want our materials, which means more materials are vying for domestic markets, increasing prices and the demand for better quality materials.



Even though costs have risen, recycling is still important. We have a single earth, with finite resources. Recycled materials are critical to replace and augment virgin natural resources. We also have a climate crisis before us, and according to ICLEI, a leading group of local governments for sustainability, waste reduction, recycling and composting programs can be the most effective actions local governments can take to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Controlling our waste is more important than ever.

Export bans from China and other countries are increasing investments in the U.S. More companies are building to buy recycled materials in the U.S. It also is showing us the importance of shifting responsibility from municipalities to producers. Municipalities don't have a lot of control over what is purchased and thus what has to be disposed. Yet, municipalities are held accountable for the amount of waste and how it is discarded. Connecticut has been a leader in promoting extended producer responsibility (EPR) programs, which lead to more sustainable and financially stable recycling programs.

Middletown participates in all the State's EPR programs, mattresses and electronics recycling is free at the City's recycling center and paint can be recycled at a local Paintcare location such as Ace Hardware on South Main Street or any Sherwin Williams location. The City also participates in the Thermostat Recycling Corporation's recycling program. Old thermostats can be brought to Public Works in City Hall for proper disposal.

The City of Middletown also passed its own municipal Bring Your Own Bag Ordinance to encourage residents to use reusable bags instead of using bags that almost immediately get thrown away or recycled. This not only reduces plastic bags that litter our waterways and lands, but also encourages people to think about their waste. The plastic and paper bags create waste. By customers refusing bags and bringing their own, we are saving money and reducing waste.



The City has organized educational workshops to teach about composting and we have coordinated community sales of compost bins and rain barrels. The City is also collecting food waste from residents and small businesses at the Recycling Center for no charge. If we recycled all of

our food waste, we could reduce our trash by 10% and have a significant impact on climate change.

By reducing our waste and recycling properly, we can make a difference. Residents can be informed of recycling programs by signing up for public works notifications on the city website, <https://www.middletownct.gov/955/Notifications>.

Recycling is more important than ever. Knowing the recycling guidelines is critical. Please don't "wish" it to be recycled. Know what is recyclable and what is not. Recycling guidelines can be found at [www.recyclect.com](http://www.recyclect.com). But just don't rely simply on recycling. We must also reduce our trash and recycling to truly have an impact on cost and our environment.

If you have questions, contact the City Recycling Coordinator at 860-638-4855 or [kim.orourke@middletownct.gov](mailto:kim.orourke@middletownct.gov).

## **DURHAM WATER PROJECT UPDATE**

*By Edward Hathaway – EPA New England Region  
Project Manager for Durham Meadows Superfund Site*

On September 8, 2019, work began on the installation of the new water main to provide public water to the residences



and businesses within the Durham Meadows Superfund Site. The work began at the intersection of Talcott Ridge Drive and Route 17 and will continue until early December 2019. At that time, the work will stop for the winter and will re-start in April 2020. The water main installation along Talcott Ridge Drive and portions of Watch Hill Drive will begin October 7, 2019 and continue until December 1, 2019. Any remaining work for that area would also be performed in 2020. In 2020, the water tank, booster station, and water meter vault will be constructed and curb stops will be installed for all properties along Route 17 from Talcott Ridge Drive in Middletown to Talcott Lane in Durham. The entire project, including the work in Durham, is expected to be completed in 2022.

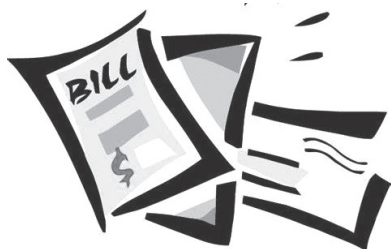
The work is being performed by Ludlow Construction, Inc. of Ludlow, MA, under a contract that was procured by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). USACE has been hired by EPA to award and manage the contract. The project is expected to be completed within three years.

Project details: About 30,000 linear feet of water main will be installed to allow connection of 120 local homes and businesses in Durham, including the Coginchaug High School, Strong Middle School and the Durham Fairgrounds to the water system. Another 70 properties will have curb stops installed to allow for a future water service. An 800,000 gallon water storage tank will be constructed in Middletown to provide gravity pressure

for the system and to provide storage for fire protection. The new water main will also allow the municipal water supply wells at the Fairgrounds to be closed. Fire hydrants will also be installed along the length of the new water main.

The construction activities on Route 17 and Route 68 (Wallingford Rd) will occur during the night, similar to the work to install the gas main. This is to minimize the impact on traffic during daytime on these major roads. There will be lights to illuminate the work area during night work. Working hours for the night work will be 7 pm to 5 am Sunday - Thursday. All other work will occur during the day with normal working hours (7 am to 5 pm) Monday - Friday. There will also be uniformed police officers to assist with traffic control on Route 17 and Route 68. Access to driveways and certain roads may be restricted for limited periods of time during the water main installation.

You can find more information about the water line project at the EPA Durham Meadows Superfund Site website at: <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/durham>. Select the folder entitled: Water Line Construction Progress Reports to access progress reports and other information regarding the water line construction.



## DO YOU HAVE BILLING QUESTIONS?

*By Patty Green,  
Account Clerk*

**DON'T WAIT!!** Please contact the Water Department within 30 days of the billing date if you have a question regarding your bill. After this 30-day grace period, per state statute, interest will accumulate on unpaid balances and the account will be considered delinquent. If you wait to contact us with a billing question until after this grace period is over, even if there is a correction to the account, the applied interest will remain. Therefore, to avoid additional charges, contacting us early is always best!

## WHAT'S NEW WITH THE CREW

**Seth Lentz** started working for the city on August 12, 2019 as the Assistant Chief Engineer. Prior to his hiring in Middletown, Seth worked for 4 years as an Engineer/Planner for the Town of Wallingford. Seth is a Professional Engineer registered with the State of Connecticut. Seth graduated from Lehigh University in Pennsylvania with a degree in Civil Engineering. He lives in Burlington with his wife, and two dogs, Nelson and Frankie. Seth and his wife are avid skiers and travel across the country to ski and hike. Seth will be attending CWWA conferences in the fall to further his knowledge of the industry.

**Christian Kunak** was hired on July 22, 2019 and will serve as a Utility II worker for our construction and maintenance division. Prior to working for the City of Middletown, Christian was self-employed and owned and operated a small trucking company. He was brought up in East Hampton and went to East Hampton High School. He currently lives in East Hampton with his two dogs, Tully and Lulu. Christian often enjoys the outdoors, hiking various trails in CT. He enjoys hunting and fishing throughout the region. Christian also likes to cook the game he hunts and the fish he catches.

**Joe Crescimanno** started on June 17, 2019 working for the city as a Utility II worker also. Joe is a graduate of Xavier High School and also a graduate of Eastern Connecticut State University where he majored in business. Prior to obtaining this position, Joe worked at the Senior Center as a program aid and prior to that, worked at the Park and Recreation Department as a temporary employee. Joe was born and raised in Middletown and currently resides here as well. In his spare time, Joe, as a hobbyist, loves to fix cars, motorcycles and trucks. Besides that, a passion that he enjoys is cooking and grilling and preparing fine foods.

*The Water and Sewer Department welcomes you all aboard and we hope you have a safe, long and happy employment with the City of Middletown!*